

**To:** Mylott, Richard[Mylott.Richard@epa.gov]  
**Cc:** R8 Documentation Unit Leader[R08\_Documentation\_Unit\_Leader@epa.gov]  
**From:** Hestmark, Martin  
**Sent:** Tue 8/18/2015 10:33:45 PM  
**Subject:** RE: Draft Qs and As on upper animas mines, ARSG claims and next steps

No, looks good.

**From:** Mylott, Richard  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 18, 2015 3:02 PM  
**To:** Hestmark, Martin  
**Subject:** Fwd: Draft Qs and As on upper animas mines, ARSG claims and next steps

Any feedback? 720-581-8244

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Peterson, Cynthia" <Peterson.Cynthia@epa.gov>  
**Date:** August 18, 2015 at 1:46:38 PM MDT  
**To:** "Mylott, Richard" <Mylott.Richard@epa.gov>, "Ostrander, David" <Ostrander.David@epa.gov>, "Hestmark, Martin" <Hestmark.Martin@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** "Wharton, Steve" <Wharton.Steve@epa.gov>, "Stavnes, Sandra" <Stavnes.Sandra@epa.gov>, "Way, Steven" <way.steven@epa.gov>, "McClain-Vanderpool, Lisa" <Mcclain-Vanderpool.Lisa@epa.gov>, "Smith, Paula" <Smith.Paula@epa.gov>, "Miullo, Nat" <Miullo.Nat@epa.gov>, "Schmittdiel, Paula" <Schmittdiel.Paula@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Draft Qs and As on upper animas mines, ARSG claims and next steps

Rich.

Attached are my suggested edits. As I mentioned in my voice message, I think being too specific about meeting dates doesn't accurately reflect the ongoing consultation and collaboration that has taken place between EPA and ARSG. We could provide a lot more specific information, but I would prefer to remain more general and just note that a formal presentation was made to the group this May. I included the presentation to the La Plata County Commissioners last September as a public meeting as well.

Cynthia Peterson

Community Involvement Coordinator

Public Affairs and Community Involvement

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region VIII

1595 Wynkoop St. (8OC-PAI)

Denver, CO 80202-1129

303-312-6879 -- direct dial

**From:** Mylott, Richard

**Sent:** Tuesday, August 18, 2015 12:08 PM

**To:** Ostrander, David; Hestmark, Martin

**Cc:** Wharton, Steve; Stavnes, Sandra; Way, Steven; Peterson, Cynthia; McClain-Vanderpool, Lisa; Smith, Paula; Miullo, Nat; Schmittdiel, Paula

**Subject:** RE: Draft Qs and As on upper animas mines, ARSG claims and next steps

August 18 draft attached. Please review and offer any additional edits. I will be sending this to others (EOC and JIC) for review later today.

This reflects most edits and suggestions received to date. I have not included any additional suggested Qs as I would like to focus on these first. It would be helpful if Steve Way or Cynthia or others can help me reconfirm the language in red regarding GKM info presented in May 2015.

Thanks all for your help with this.

Rich

**From:** Ostrander, David  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 18, 2015 7:26 AM  
**To:** Mylott, Richard; Hestmark, Martin  
**Cc:** Wharton, Steve; Stavnes, Sandra; Way, Steven; Peterson, Cynthia; McClain-Vanderpool, Lisa; Smith, Paula; Miullo, Nat; Schmittdiel, Paula  
**Subject:** RE: Draft Qs and As on upper animas mines, ARSG claims and next steps

I read this again and the discussion about the R&B connection through mine works language is good.

**From:** Mylott, Richard  
**Sent:** Monday, August 17, 2015 3:31 PM  
**To:** Hestmark, Martin  
**Cc:** Wharton, Steve; Stavnes, Sandra; Ostrander, David; Way, Steven; Peterson, Cynthia; McClain-Vanderpool, Lisa; Smith, Paula; Miullo, Nat; Schmittdiel, Paula  
**Subject:** Draft Qs and As on upper animas mines, ARSG claims and next steps

**Draft, deliberative**

All—please review these Qs and As and offer any comments asap. I drafted these based on email from Steve Way, previous responses we have had approved since last week, and with help from Cynthia and Paula S. I have seen some recent Qs and As related to similar topics coming out of DRMS and don't see anything that is a glaring inconsistency.

I'm sure some of you will have suggestions to improve this and make it more accurate. Once I have your feedback I will work with HQ-EOC and others for approvals to begin using.

Rich x 6654

**From:** Mylott, Richard  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 16, 2015 1:59 PM

**To:** Hestmark, Martin

**Cc:** Wharton, Steve; Stavnes, Sandra; Ostrander, David; Way, Steven; Peterson, Cynthia; McClain-Vanderpool, Lisa; Smith, Paula; Miullo, Nat

**Subject:** RE: need for a media desk statement on upper animas mines and next steps

Draft- deliberative

If someone has the capacity to draft a start based on existing info that has been provided, that would be great. Otherwise, Lisa, Laura and I will check in on this tomorrow.

Some sampling of Associated Press Qs below to give you an idea of what part of the statement should address. Please forgive me if there are draft responses to these out there already.

Some questions for EPA:

--is EPA aware of water buildup inside the Sunnyside Mine?

--is there any estimate for the volume of water inside Sunnyside?

--does the agency have any concerns about a potential spill from Sunnyside?

--were the actions taken at Sunnyside responsible for water that was coming out of Gold King Mine?

--has the EPA seen recent increase in water discharges from the Black Hawk mine, and is that in any way tied to the events at Sunnyside?

**From:** Hestmark, Martin

**Sent:** Sunday, August 16, 2015 1:42 PM

**To:** Mylott, Richard

**Cc:** Wharton, Steve; Stavnes, Sandra; Ostrander, David; Way, Steven; Peterson, Cynthia; McClain-Vanderpool, Lisa; Smith, Paula; Miullo, Nat

**Subject:** Re: need for a media desk statement on upper animas mines and next steps

I would like to see those tomorrow

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 15, 2015, at 4:08 PM, Mylott, Richard <[Mylott.Richard@epa.gov](mailto:Mylott.Richard@epa.gov)> wrote:

All- I wanted to flag this a need for messaging next week. We are seeing a growing need for general messages on, 1—next steps for addressing Upper Animas mining concerns, and, 2. what we know and don't know about water and the connections among the mines in the area --Gold King, Sunnyside, Red and Bonita, etc.

I think all we need is a couple paragraphs that speak in general terms about the status and limits of our knowledge, and what we will look to do next, in terms of both assessing/securing the mine(s) and next steps w/ our partners. Ideally, these would be shared and reinforced by others, i.e., state.

These are Qs coming with increasing frequency from several news outlets and others.

I understand there are several factors at play here. I also know there have been several draft and final responses provided to the JIC on some of these Qs worked by Steve and Sandy and others in the region. We can use these as a starting point and discuss Monday.

Rich